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1. After the ratification of the land reform report made by Liu Shao-ch'i, vice chairman of the Chinese Communist government, the Kwangtung provincial government decided to try out land reform in Chichyang, Hsinning, and Lungh'uan Hsien in eastern Kwangtung. This trial was completed.

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2. After this trial, the Kwangtung land reform committee issued the following report on the results:

a. The four steps of land reforms:

- (1) Tidying up, organizing, investigating, and studying propaganda policy.
- (2) Classifying poor farmers, hired farmers, middle farmers, rich farmers, and landlords according to correct standards.
- (3) Confiscating, acquiring, and distributing land according to the correct policy.
- (4) Making a general conclusion based on experience.

b. Errors in carrying out land reforms:

- (1) Failure to rouse poor farmers and hired farmers who do not dare ask their landlords for land.
- (2) Insufficient number of cadres from poor and hired farmers to secure ascendancy over those people who still pull strings behind the scenes.

Difficulties arising from not daring to initiate the masses to the full extent, as happened in Lungh'uan Hsien with the following results:

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- (1) Not daring to fight against the big landlords.
- (2) Not caring to carry the issue far enough for fear of carrying it too far.
- (3) Being anxious to protect the rich and middle class farmers.
- (4) Not mustering victimized farmers to bring up complaints as a group against their landlords.
- (5) Not having confidence in local cadres and the creative power of the masses.
- (6) Not undertaking the classification of farmers.

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d. Remedies for these defects:

- (1) Depending on poor and hired farmers to win over middle farmers in order to isolate rich farmers. This is the general policy which is also the general course for land reform.
- (2) Mobilizing the masses to suppress and eliminate the landlord class, with the strong conviction that those who are hostile to the farmers and undermine land reform are landlords.
- (3) Indoctrinating and organizing poor and hired farmers thoroughly so that they do not lean on the middle farmers. Without bringing the poor and hired farmers into full play, it is impossible to diminish the pre-dominance of middle farmers.
- (4) Amalgamating leadership and the masses so that the leader's opinion becomes the masses' opinion. The responsibility of leaders is to take the initiative and overcome the worries of the masses, but this does not mean that leaders play a one-man show on behalf of the masses.
- (5) Mobilizing and indoctrinating the masses by popular meetings, demonstration marches, complaint meetings, "uprooting poverty" meetings, and "square accounts, redeem exploitation" meetings. It is necessary to adopt the "break through one point to push the whole front" method in leadership because the cultural standard of peasants is low in some backward places and the cadres have not had sufficient experience.
- (6) Improving cadre training. Most of the cadres who have participated in land reform lack "class struggle" training. Some of these cadres are of the rich farmer and landlord classes; so they do not understand the class viewpoint and masses' viewpoint. They may be even unstable and weaklings. To counter these defects, indoctrination of the cadres is to be intensified and the general policy of land reform clarified. Cadres participating in land reform are to make clear their class standpoint to the government, peasants' association, and families. They are also to carry out self-criticism by bringing up typical examples of their past errors. Citation and encouragement shall be given those cadres who do well in this respect.
- (7) Improving leadership over cadres. To fulfill the above-mentioned assignment, the local party and administration are to assume leadership. We are up against over-emphasis on branch activities or negation of branch activities. Leadership shall take care of the union of cadres as well as their thought, knowledge, and methods of working. The solution to many problems in land reform lies in self-criticism and respect for others and a closer union of higher and lower levels.

1 Comment. This may possibly be a translation of a circular issued to all land reform political workers in the area. 50X1-HUM

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